

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed July 2, 2004. Claims 1-36 were rejected. Applicant has submitted amendments for claims 1, 4-6, 11-13, 16-18, 23-25, 28-30, 35, and 36. Claims 2, 14, and 26 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, and 27-36 remain pending in the application.

The Office Action objected to the Abstract of the Disclosure for exceeding 150 words in length. Applicant has submitted a replacement Abstract of the Disclosure.

The Office Action objected to Figures 1-3 for lacking a designation such as "PRIOR ART." Applicant has submitted replacement drawing sheets for Figures 1-3 which include the legend "PRIOR ART."

The Office Action objected to claims 1, 2, 3, 5, and 11 due to various informalities. Applicant has canceled claim 2 and amended claim 1 to traverse the objections. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 further limits the subject matter of claim 1. Claim 1 recites, in part: "automatically calculating a subtotal of a plurality of the numeric values in a plurality of number fields preceding the number field in which the mathematical formula was entered." Claim 5 (as amended) adds further limitations to the subtotal calculation of claim 1: "wherein the automatically calculating the subtotal comprises automatically applying the mathematical operators in the operation fields preceding the number field in which the mathematical formula was entered to the numeric values in the number fields preceding the number field in which the mathematical formula was entered" (emphasis added).

Claims 1-36 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-42 of U.S. Patent No. 6,742,162. Applicant will respectfully traverse the obviousness-type double patenting rejection with a terminal disclaimer filed under separate cover.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-17, 19, 21-29, 31, and 33-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wisniewski (U.S. Patent No. 6,460,059). Claims 6, 18, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wisniewski in view of the admitted prior art. Claims 8, 20, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wisniewski in view of Blattner, Patrick et al., Special Edition Using Microsoft Excel 2000, Chapter 6, “Keeping Worksheets Legible” (Que Publishing, 1999), hereinafter “Blattner.” Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in light of the following remarks.

In regard to claim 1 (as amended), Applicant respectfully submits that Wisniewski does not teach or suggest “wherein the operation fields are displayed in columnar format on the display screen alongside the plurality of number fields in the first column.” Wisniewski discloses a standard spreadsheet having multiple columns (e.g., A, B, C, etc.) and multiple rows (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc.). In a standard spreadsheet such as Wisniewski, the intersection of a row and a column is referred to as a field or a cell. Each column in Wisniewski includes a set of fields, one on top of another. Wisniewski does not teach or suggest two types of fields, such as operation fields and number fields, being displayed alongside one another in the same column.

Also in regard to claim 1 (as amended), Applicant respectfully submits that Wisniewski does not teach or suggest “wherein the first column comprises a first column label, wherein the first column label substantially spans at least a combined width of the plurality of number fields and the one or more operation fields.” In a standard spreadsheet such as Wisniewski, each column (e.g., A, B, C, etc.) has its own label which is displayed atop the column. In Wisniewski, a column label in a standard spreadsheet is typically the width of the default size of a single field in the column. Wisniewski does not teach or suggest that column labels (e.g., ‘A,’ ‘B,’ ‘C,’ etc.) may substantially span the combined width of two fields.

In regard to claim 11 (as amended), Applicant respectfully submits that Wisniewski does not teach or suggest “entering an equality character after entering the

mathematical formula; and automatically displaying the first result in response to the entering the equality character.” In the formulas used in Wisniewski (e.g., Figs. 1, 7, 8), the equality character is entered before or with the mathematical formula (e.g., “=d9-b6”), not after the mathematical formula.

In regard to claim 12 (as amended), Applicant respectfully submits that Wisniewski does not teach or suggest “wherein the first column label is displayed atop the first column; wherein a first field label is displayed atop the plurality of number fields and below the first column label; and wherein a second field label is displayed atop the one or more operation fields, alongside the first field label, and below the first column label.” In a standard spreadsheet such as Wisniewski, each column (e.g., A, B, C, etc.) has its own label which is displayed atop the column. However, Wisniewski does not teach or suggest two field labels displayed alongside one another and below a single column label.

The remaining claims are similar to, or provide additional limitations to, the claims discussed above. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, and 27-36 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102(e) and §103(a) rejections.

CONCLUSION

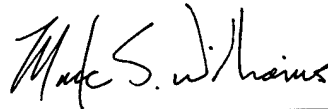
Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5676-00800/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Notice of Change of Address

Respectfully submitted,



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AGENT FOR APPLICANT(S)

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The two attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1-3. The two attached sheets are intended to replace the original sheets including Figures 1-3. In Figures 1-3, the legend "PRIOR ART" has been added.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets